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DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL OR PROGRAM

Alternative (Alt): A school or school program which meets the objectives of the school district but differs from the conventional program in instructional methods and environment. All programs addressing dropout or dropout prevention should be included in addition to special schools of choice where parents and students are given a choice of attending over the conventional program. *Programs such as special education only, talented and gifted only, and institutions with school programs should not be included.*

1) School District: _____ District/School Code: _____
(District Name) (Co) (Dist) (Sch)

2) Name of Alternative School or Title of Alternative Program: _____

3) Address of school housing Alternative Program: _____

4) Contact Person: _____ Telephone No.: _____
FAX No.: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

5) Fiscal Year Alternative School or Program Began: _____
(Year)

6) Enrollment in Alternative School or Program in the current school year: _____
(Total Number of Students)
Number Disabled: _____ (Special Education Students)
Number Minority: _____ Black _____ Hispanic _____ Asian _____ Native American

7) Education levels served by Alternative Schools or Alternative Programs (check all that apply):
_____ (Elementary School [K–5]) _____ (Middle School [6–8]) _____ (High School [9–12])

8) Students Served (check all that apply):
_____ a) Dropouts _____ b) Potential Dropouts _____ c) Regular students requesting nontraditional structure

9) Average cost per student in your Alternative School or Program for this year: \$ _____
(total teacher salaries ÷ number of students)

10) _____ a) Number of alternative students from low income families for the current school year
_____ b) Number of alternative students who were teen parents during the current school year
_____ c) Number of alternative students referred for GED testing during the current school year
_____ d) Number of students who transferred back into conventional program
_____ e) Number of alternative students completing graduation during the current school year
(separate from GED)
_____ f) Number of alternative students who went on to post-school training after graduation
(alternative graduates)
_____ g) Number of students who dropped or were expelled and did not return

11) Does your program provide child care for children of teen parents? (a) _____ Yes _____ No
(b) On-site child care: _____ Yes _____ No (c) Vouchers for off-site child care: _____ Yes _____ No

12) Number of staff employed in Alternative School or Program (write number on appropriate lines):
_____ a) full time counselors _____ b) full time teachers
_____ c) part time counselors _____ d) part time teachers
_____ e) other: _____
(Please list including number and title)

13) Enrollment Procedure in the Alternative Program (check all that apply):
_____ a) Waiting period required before enrollment is allowed
_____ b) Students referred directly into program — no waiting period
_____ c) Only students within district served
_____ d) Students within and outside district served. If checked, list districts: _____

14) Alternative Program Schedule (check all that apply):
_____ a) Day classes (before 5 p.m.) _____ b) Evening classes (after 5 p.m.)
_____ c) School week (Monday through Friday) _____ d) Weekends (Saturday and Sunday)
_____ e) School year (September through May) _____ f) Summer (June through August)
_____ g) All students attend full day (5 1/2 hours) _____ h) Students attend part day (1/2 to 5 1/2 hours)
_____ i) Other: _____

15) Purpose of Alternative School or Program (check one or more):
_____ a) Dropout Prevention
_____ b) Transition back into regular school program (Some classes taken in regular programs.)
_____ c) High school completion within the Alternative School or Program
_____ d) High school completion through GED testing program
_____ e) Elementary school completion
_____ f) Other (please list): _____

16) Curriculum offered in Alternative Program (check all that apply):

☐ a) Academic Development

☐ c) Personal and Social Development

☐ e) Other: _____

☐ b) GED Preparatory

☐ d) Career and Vocational Education

17) Diploma offered through Alternative Program (check all that apply):

☐ a) Separate Alternative School Diploma Offered b) Diploma from Regular High School Offered

☐ c) Iowa High School Equivalency Diploma (GED) d) Certificate of Attendance Offered (no diploma)

☐ e) No Diploma or Certificate Offered f) Other (please list): _____

18) Facility (check the most appropriate descriptor):

☐ a) Program located in school building housing regular program b) Program located in separate **school** building

☐ c) Program in storefront, church, community college, or building other than a typical school building

Identify type of building: _____

19) Evaluation procedure used (check one or more):

☐ a) Follow-Up Surveys of Students (career, post-graduation training, social success) b) Standardized Testing (Academic, Personal/Social, Career/Vocational, Other)

☐ c) Staff Performance Appraisals d) Student Progress Reports

☐ e) Informal Testing f) Local Formal Tests Developed and Standardized for Locality

☐ g) Student Self-Evaluation (Academic, Personal/Social, Career/Vocational) h) Applied Projects

☐ i) Contracts for Performance j) Portfolios

☐ k) Report Cards l) Checklists

☐ m) Letters to Parents n) Conferences with Parents

☐ o) Personalized Planning p) Needs Assessments

☐ q) Parent Questionnaires r) Employer Surveys

☐ s) Staff Surveys t) Community Surveys

☐ u) Other: _____

20) Curriculum Techniques and/or Activities (check all descriptors that apply):

☐ a) Competency Based Learning (school or program strives for mastery of predetermined objectives via written testing, observation of performance or interviews. Student progress is documented by what they can do, i.e., objectives/competencies.) b) Individually Guided Education (Instruction based on learner's level and guided by learner's performance — individual approach.)

☐ c) Block Scheduling (Instruction or guidance is provided for groups of students together.) d) Individual Scheduling (Students are instructed or counseled one-on-one.)

☐ e) Independent Study/Contracting (Student earns credit for studying on his or her own initiative — contracts are established between teacher and learner which outline content, time lines, and evaluation method.)

☐ f) Interdisciplinary Instruction (Two or more subjects are combined into one class for students to appreciate relationships and intercommunications among subject areas.)

☐ g) Community Studies (Students participate in community to supplement academic learning or for career orientation, exploration, or preparation.)

☐ h) GED preparatory curriculum (Basic skills for students who plan on taking the GED examinations.)

☐ i) Child Care Training (Provided in conjunction with child care center serving teen parents on program.)

☐ j) Health Education: ☐ Drug Use and Abuse ☐ Nutrition ☐ Sexuality ☐ Other: _____

21) Counseling Activities (check one or more)

☐ a) Program Planning c) Individual/Group Problem Solving

☐ e) Self-Assessment/Testing g) Parent Relations/Conferences

☐ i) School/Community Issues

☐ b) Career Planning/Placement Preparation d) Substance Abuse Counseling

☐ f) Orientation to Courses h) Decision Making Skills

☐ j) Other (please list): _____

22) Student Governance (check one or more):

Students participate in:

☐ a) Deciding Instruction Techniques c) Determining Discipline

☐ e) Planning Cocurricular Activities

☐ b) Planning Curriculum d) Teacher Evaluation

☐ f) Other: _____

23) Staff Governance (check all that apply)

Teachers input decisions about:

☐ a) Instruction d) Teacher Evaluation

☐ b) Curriculum e) Cocurricular Activities

☐ c) Discipline f) Staff Development

☐ g) Other: _____

24) Identify involvement in national or international recognized projects:

☐ a) Expeditionary learning schools b) Coalition of essential schools

☐ c) Open schools d) Self-directed learning schools

☐ e) Other: _____

25) Community groups that are encouraged to participate (check all that apply):

☐ a) Parents c) Business or Industry

☐ b) Civic and Community Groups d) Support services, i.e., human services, mental health, etc.

☐ e) Other: _____